

**UTAH STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING
DNR SOLDIER HOLLOW CONFERENCE ROOM
1594 WEST NORTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH**

FEBRUARY 5, 2007

Present:

Scott Parson, Chair	Karl Bentley, Vice Chair	Bill Bleak
Joe Hull	Eli Anderson	Lois Bulloch
Gael Hill	Glenn Greenhalgh	Irene Hansen
Mary Tullius	Mark Forbes	Deena Loyola
Dave Harris	Bruce Hamilton	Dan Clark
Richard Droesbeke	Wendy Griffith	

Visitors:

Annie Payne, Utah Guides and Outfitters
Marty Banks, Utah Guides and Outfitters
Richard Quist, Utah Guides and Outfitters
Pamela Berger, Boating Advisory Council
Heather Shilton, Attorney General's Office

Chair Parson welcomed board members and staff to the State Parks and Recreation Board meeting.

Chair Parson asked board members for review and approval of the board agenda.

VICE-CHAIR KARL BENTLEY MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AGENDA. MR. ELI ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Parson asked board members for review and approval of the December 21, 2006 board meeting minutes.

MR. BILL BLEAK MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 21, 2006, BOARD MEETING. VICE-CHAIR KARL BENTLEY SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. IT WAS NOTED THAT GLENN GREENHALGH ATTENDED THE MEETING, BUT NOT LISTED AS BEING PRESENT; HIS NAME WILL BE ADDED.

Director's Report

Director Mary Tullius presented the Director's Report. She mentioned that the board members should be receiving the weekly and monthly highlights that are prepared for the Governor via email. Chair Parson asked how the employees are recognized by the Governor when their name is mentioned in those reports. Ms. Tullius said a letter from the Governor is sent to the employee and a copy of the letter is sent to the Department and they are then passed around to the Department's leadership team for their review.

Ms. Tullius said Deputy Directors Bruce Hamilton and Mark Forbes are doing a great job at leading their staff. She mentioned that Mr. Hamilton is sitting in on the Department of Natural Resources Leadership meeting this morning and will be here when that meeting is over. Ms. Tullius mentioned one of the things they are discussing in that meeting is the introduction of an invasive species, the quagga mussels. They are worried about these getting into Lake Powell, Quail Creek, and Sand Hollow. These mussels cause problems with water lines. She said there was a ranger roundup held last month in Lehi. She said it was very well attended and a lot of good information was discussed. A boating conference was held after that.

Ms. Tullius said she and Mr. Forbes are working together to learn the legislative process this year. She handed out the latest copy of the organizational chart for the Business Administration and Support Services (BASS) section. Mr. Forbes discussed some of the changes that have been made. He is trying to focus

on marketing. He said we have services to offer that people don't utilize because they don't know about them. He would like to increase awareness. Some staff have been reassigned and given different duties; one person has been assigned to market research only. He said they are working on de-centralization for the financial management. He feels this will be more effective. He said they are going to utilize the Reservations office to conduct some research and track trends. Business plans are driven by the data received from this research.

Deena Loyola discussed what is happening with the 50th Anniversary. Karen Krieger is the chair of the committee that is planning the events for the 50th Anniversary. The committee has developed a plan and they have been presenting it to the regions during their meetings. One of the most exciting things that will be happening is the geocache event. We have been working with Government Solutions. They have secured 80 Magellan GPS units for the parks to use for the geocache event. There will be an exhibit opening at Iron Mission on May 18th and 19th that all board members will be invited to. The Governor will also be invited to this event. Reece Stein is featuring a "park of the week" on Channel 2 every Saturday evening to promote our 50th Anniversary. There are panels in our front office that were designed for the anniversary and they will be used as part of the exhibit opening at Iron Mission.

Ms. Tullius said the board members are invited to go to the capitol this afternoon. Today is the final voting of our committee on some priorities that were presented. There will be a shuttle available for everyone to take.

Ms. Tullius mentioned that we had a few staff members retire over the last couple of months-Steve Roberts, Deputy Director; Vickie Houser, Publications Coordinator; and Lance Hollerman, Southwest Region Crew member. We are really going to miss these people.

Legislative Update

Ms. Tullius reviewed the handout that was given to all board members (Week 3 at the Utah Legislature). This list includes pieces of legislation we are watching very carefully this year. She explained the bills that are on this list. Board members were concerned about HB 97 (Motor Vehicle Checkoff for Protecting Access to Public Lands and Off-highway Vehicle Education). They will draft a letter to take with them to the capitol this afternoon. Another bill that is of concern to the Board members is HB 214 (Senior Permits for State Parks). The fiscal impact on State Parks will be huge. It was suggested that we have Senate Rules members question the fiscal note and then figure out which way to have an amendment made to the bill. We are trying to have the Legislature understand the enormous impact of this bill; we are not trying to cover anything up. It was suggested that we stay focused on the fiscal impact, but also be ready for an amendment if it makes it to the Senate floor. There are several rules the Board could set if this passes.

Budget Update

Ms. Tullius reviewed the handout that was given to all board members (2008 Budget). This includes what was requested, what the Governor's recommendations were, and finally what the fiscal analyst recommended.

Introduction

Chair Parson asked Bruce Hamilton to introduce Dan Clark. Mr. Clark is the new Construction and Development Coordinator for State Parks. Mr. Clark transferred from DFCM. The Board welcomed him to State Parks.

Boating Rule Changes

Boating Coordinator Dave Harris gave a PowerPoint presentation on the recommended Boating rule changes. He went over the process and the timeline the Boating Advisory Council has gone through to get to this point. There was one section that is not included in the rule changes at this time so the Boating Advisory Council can look into it further. Mr. Harris reviewed each action item that the Board is being asked to consider. The recommendation is that the Board consider amending the Boating rules that are included in the packet.

Chair Parson thanked Mr. Harris for his efforts, along with the Boating Advisory Council for all of their work in preparing the rules in order to make boating safer.

MS. LOIS BULLOCH MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE BOATING RULES AS PRESENTED. MR. KARL BENTLEY SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Parson asked for public comments. Mr. Marty Banks, Utah Guides and Outfitters (UGO), presented his comments regarding the rule changes. For the most part, UGO supports the rule changes. UGO is not rejecting the rule changes, what they are asking for is a time-out, possibly until the next Board meeting, in order for more negotiations to take place between UGO and the Boating Advisory Council. Mr. Harris mentioned that they have been working with the Coast Guard on these rule changes. The Coast Guard is looking into changing their rules also. Board Member Bill Bleak asked Mr. Banks to clarify what UGO is opposing. One issue they have is that most river guides don't have a place of business to display their certification. Another item is that river guides don't maintain voyage plans. They also feel that vessel maintenance and inspections should not include rafts. They also feel that the testing is "overkill" for rafters. The Board is concerned about passing the rule changes today and then coming back in a couple of months and making adjustments to them. Mr. Harris said they have met with UGO several times and the Boating Advisory Council has taken their concerns into consideration. There have been no new issues raised today.

Mr. Richard Quist, Utah Guides and Outfitters, presented his comments. He feels the Boating Division's overhaul of Utah's current boating laws and rules, focusing on the vessel inspection, is a noble but misguided effort as it applies to the river rafters. He said they are not opposed to being safe or oversight by the State as far as their guides' experience goes, what they are opposed to is for the Division to import wholesale U.S. Coast Guard rules and regulations and then try to fit the river guides in under those and make them apply to them. He said Section I is no problem. They would like to have Sections II and III sent back to the Boating Division and ask them to fine tune them and reflect in them the right line of difference between "these guys and us guys" in terms of the practical nature of the equipment and the operations they're running. He feels Section IV is a very jumbled and confusing document that does anything at all to ensure the safety or the ability of river guides to perform their jobs. He said the Division should keep the current guide licensing program. He said they don't have a problem with Section VI or VII. He disagrees with Mr. Harris on the issue of them receiving all of the information from everybody involved. He doesn't believe all of the input has been considered. Board Member Irene Hansen questioned what surrounding states' requirements were. Ms. Annie Payne, Utah Guides and Outfitters, explained what the surrounding states require. Ms. Hansen expressed concern that some of the outfitters would pull their vessels out of Utah if our requirements were too much. She would rather have the Board take the time to review these boating rule changes more closely before taking action on them.

Ms. Annie Payne, Utah Guides and Outfitters, read a letter she had prepared for the Board. She also sits on the Boating Advisory Council and the committee that worked on the rule changes. She said when the Boating Advisory Council voted on the changes, they were as follows: 1) unanimous; 2) 2 against and 4 for; 3) 2 against and 4 for; 4) 2 against and 4 for; 6) unanimous; 7) 2 against 4 for; and 8) unanimous. She doesn't feel her suggestions were even taken into consideration. She said the Boating Advisory Council heard nine outfitters speak about these rule. She said eight of the nine opposed the document. One of the outfitters said that if Parks is issuing license, there is a possibility that they can be sued. She would like the Board to send the proposal back to Dave Harris, his staff, the Boating Advisory Council, and the Utah Guides and Outfitters to come back in a month with something they all agree on. She thinks they would be able to do that at the next Board meeting. Mr. Harris was asked what he thinks about that and he doesn't feel that they can make everybody happy. Ms. Payne is not asking for no regulations, she is just asking for good river running regulations.

Chair Parson asked how the Board would like to proceed with this. He has a concern with approving the rules until we have the vessel inspection portion is finished and things can be worked out with the river running community. Vice-Chair Bentley doesn't feel that we can come to a consensus with the river guides. Board Member Irene Hansen wants to make sure that when Board members are asked about the new rules, that they can at least say they took the time to look into it. Richard Dreesbeke said they met with individual outfitters during the process and took their suggestions into consideration. He said the outfitters as a group kept saying the rules were bad, but they did not give any specifics. Dave Harris mentioned that the small companies that run the smaller rivers, do not operate motorized vessels, so they would not need to be inspected. He said the majority of the inspections would be on Cataract Canyon vessels that are going from Moab to Cataract Canyon. He said the river runners that were representatives on the committee, wanted to be exempt from the education requirements and the vessel inspections. He said that is the integral part of the program-that the vessel operators are educated and experienced and the vessels are inspected. Mr. Harris told the president of UGO that we would hold off on the vessel inspection portion for now. He said

they are working on a third-party agreement with the Coast Guard. He said the Coast Guard is working on the inspection process. He said this is a statewide program and he doesn't want to have separate programs for the river runners, the airboat operators, and one program for the guides on the Great Salt Lake. He said there is a way to inspect all types of vessels and they want to incorporate it into one program.

MS. IRENE HANSE MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD NOT TAKE ACTION ON THE BOATING RULES UNTIL THE VESSEL INSPECTION SECTION IS READY AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING. MR. KARL BENTLEY OPPOSED THE MOTION.

The Board made some suggestions on what needs to happen prior to the next meeting. One of the suggestions is that the river guides need to get back with the Boating Advisory Council regarding their specific concerns with the new rules.

Chair Parson said we need to modify the agenda and have Ms. Heather Shilton present the contract update for This Is The Place next.

This Is The Place Heritage Park Contract Update

Heather Shilton, Attorney General's Office, said she received a phone message this morning from the This Is The Place Foundation saying they did not like the word "curate" in the contract. They said they would have Ellis Ivory and Robyn Pearson talk with Mary Tullius about it. Ms. Shilton sees the Foundation as being responsible for the artifacts as the contract is written. She said the Foundation owns and manages the donations they receive. The Foundation would like the contract to be changed to collecting and distributing rather than curating. Karen Krieger, Heritage Resources Coordinator, is concerned about curating being taken out of the contract. She said This Is The Place Foundation needs to know they are responsible for any objects they keep. Ms. Shilton said we have the option of not even putting the language in the contract. She passed out a copy of the contract that includes all changes that were suggested at the last Board meeting. The only thing that is controversial is the word "curation" being in it.

MS. IRENE HANSEN MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD TABLE THIS AGENDA ITEM. MR. BILL BLEAK SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

It was suggested that a conference call be held to discuss this item further.

Golf Passes

VICE-CHAIR KARL BENTLEY MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE GOLF PASSES AS PRESENTED IN THE BOARD PACKET. MR. GLENN GREENHALGH SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants

VICE-CHAIR KARL BENTLEY MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANTS AS PRESENTED IN THE BOARD PACKET. MS. IRENE HANSEN SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Trails Advisory Council Member Approval

MS. GAEL HILL MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE MS. CAMILLE MOORE AS A MEMBER OF THE TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL. VICE-CHAIR KARL BENTLEY SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Trails Project Sponsor Change

MS. GAEL HILL MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE SPONSOR CHANGE FOR THE TRAILS PROJECT AS PRESENTED IN THE BOARD PACKET. MR. GLENN GREENHALGH SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MR. ELI ANDERSON MADE A MOTION THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED.